

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL MEMORANDUM**

**SB 207 – HB 288**

February 20, 2019

**SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL:** Establishes that an adoptive or prospective adoptive parent, a biological parent and a child 14 years of age or older, who voluntarily enter into a written contract for post-adoption contact that permits continued contact between legal relatives and the child is enforceable by the court when signed by all parties. Prohibits a biological parent from petitioning the court for modification of a contract. Requires the party who petitions the court for enforcement or modification of a contract to deliver a letter to all other parties stating the enforcement or modification sought and the reason for the request. Requires an opinion from a licensed psychological professional, on the child's best interest and mediation, if the issues addressed in the letter to initiate enforcement or modification of the contract are not resolved.

**FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:**

NOT SIGNIFICANT

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (004544):** Changes the effective date from July 1, 2019 to upon becoming law.

**FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**

**Unchanged from the original fiscal note.**

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Based on information provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts, the proposed legislation would not result in a significant increase in caseloads for the state and local courts. Any increase in expenditures will be absorbed within existing state and local resources.
- No fiscal impact on the operations of the Department of Children's Services.
- Any fiscal impact will be borne by private parties; therefore, no fiscal impact to state or local government.

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**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/vlh